

01485

1992/01/02

ACTION

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
ARA/NEA REARCS

PMNUC - Procurement (42)

PAGE 01 ISLAMA 88822 028745Z
ACTION: PK (01)

021812 S885211

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INFO: NEA (U) RA (U) MIL (U) SE (U) IN (U)
----- 871211Z A3 HS (TOTAL COPIES: 008)

ACTION NEA-08

INFO LOG-08 ACDA-13 AHAD-01 CEA-01 CEQ-01 CIAE-09 COME-09
C-01 DOOE-08 DOE-08 DPR-01 EAP-08 EB-08 EUR-08
E-01 H-01 INRE-08 INR-01 IO-19 L-08 ADS-08
MRC-07 NSAE-08 NSCE-08 OES-09 OIC-02 PA-01 PM-08
PRS-01 SNP-08 SP-08 SS-08 STR-28 TRSE-08 T-01
EPAE-08 /007W
----- 022257 028815Z /23

P 028743Z JAN 92
FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2813
INFO AMCONSUL LAHORE
AMCONSUL KARACHI
AMCONSUL PESHAWAR
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY BEIJING
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USIA VASHDC 4854

CONFIDENTIAL ISLAMABAD 88822

LONDON FOR POL JOHNSON

USIA FOR NEA RUGH

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: NMUC, PREL, KNHP, CH, PK
SUBJECT: GOP SIGNS AGREEMENT TO BUY PRC NUCLEAR PLANT
REF: 91 ISLAMABAD 19576

DEPARTMENT OF STATE		IS FPC/CDR <i>jtu</i> Date: 7/8/93
<input type="checkbox"/> RELEASE <input type="checkbox"/> DECLASSIFY <input type="checkbox"/> TS authority to <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCISE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DECLASSIFY TS <input type="checkbox"/> DENY <input type="checkbox"/> TS FANT <input type="checkbox"/> DELETE Non-Responsive Info <input type="checkbox"/> CLASSIFY as FOIA Exemptions <i>B1</i> <input type="checkbox"/> SCR () C OADR PA Exemptions <input type="checkbox"/> DOWNGRADE TS 10 () S or () C OADR		MR Class Only EO Class Only

1. (U) ALL THE MAJOR ENGLISH AND URDU DAILIES GAVE FRONT-PAGE COVERAGE ON JANUARY 1 TO THE COP ANNOUNCEMENT THAT IT HAD SIGNED AN AGREEMENT WITH CHINA TO PURCHASE A 300-MEGAWATT NUCLEAR POWER PLANT (REFTEL). ACCORDING TO THE PRESS REPORTS, PAK ATOMIC ENERGY CHAIRMAN ISHFQ AHMAD SIGNED THE AGREEMENT IN BEIJING ON DEC 31. PRIME MINISTER MNAZ SHARIF PUBLICLY WELCOMED THE ANNOUNCEMENT, NOTING THAT THE PLANT WILL BE PLACED UNDER IAEA SAFEGUARDS. HE WENT ON TO PRAISE THE AGREEMENT AS UNDERLINING "THE STRONG TIES AND CLOSE FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN PAKISTAN AND CHINA."

2. (U) SEVERAL OF THE NEWS STORIES INCLUDED COMMENT THAT THE CHINESE HAD AGREED TO SELL THE POWER PLANT DESPITE "PRESSURE" FROM THE U.S. NOT TO DO SO. SEVERAL ALSO STATED THAT THE NUCLEAR PLANT DEAL WITH CHINA HAS PROVEN THAT THE PAK-CHINESE RELATIONSHIP IS NOT IN DECLINE AS SOME OBSERVERS HAD SPECULATED FOLLOWING PREMIER LI PENG'S RECENT VISIT TO NEW DELHI.

3. (C) COMMENT: THE JANUARY 1 PRESS REPORTS CONFIRMED THE STORY THAT HAD BEEN RUN BY THE FRONTIER POST ON DEC 28 (REFTEL). WHILE THE PRESS NOTED THAT THE CHINESE HAD AGREED TO PROVIDE THE PAKS WITH AN UNSPECIFIED AMOUNT OF ASSISTANCE TO FINANCE THE REPORTED USD 500 MILLION FOREIGN EXCHANGE COMPONENT OF THE SALE, IT REMAINS UNCLEAR WHAT IMPACT THE

SIX-YEAR-LONG CONSTRUCTION OF THE PLANT WILL HAVE.

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